

Company until 1821, at which point it was absorbed by the Hudson's Bay Company in a merger.

In 1824, McLoughlin arrived at Fort George, now called Astoria, Oregon near the mouth of the Columbia River, to further establish an administrative headquarters and supply depot for the ever expanding Hudson's Bay Company. In part, his duties were to create a mercantile arm of the British government, to monopolize the fur trade business, and maintain peace among the numerous tribes of Indians. Finding the facility at Astoria to be grossly rundown, unfertile and too far from inland trade facilities, in 1825 McLoughlin moved the northwest headquarters to a more favorable location on the northern side of the Columbia. He built the new site at Belle Vue Point in what is now Washington State and named it, Fort Vancouver.

The new fort was nearly 750 feet long and 450 feet wide with a stockade about 20 feet high. There were about 40 buildings inside the fort. The fort housed a school, a library, pharmacy, power house, chapel, officers, warehouses, workshops, a blacksmith shop, and the largest manufacturing facility west of the Rocky Mountains. Fully contained, behind the fort were fields of grains, an orchard and a vegetable garden. The Indians, with whom Dr. McLoughlin maintained a very good relationship, were not allowed inside the stockade and would conduct their trading through a porthole in the door. In 1829, a ship arrived from Boston bringing with it a horrible fever which broke out among them. Dr. McLoughlin spent much of his own time tending to the ills of the stricken, but within four years over 30,000 Indians lay dead.

The fort flourished under the leadership of Dr. McLoughlin. Without any type of military force, he was able to maintain law and order by his own personality and by the cooperation of his officers and employees. There were no Indian wars in the Oregon Country until after his resignation. Dr. John McLoughlin was so revered for his work in the Oregon Country that in 1841 McLoughlin was knighted by Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace.

By the 1840's, the British knew that they couldn't keep the American settlers out of Oregon, but they wanted to control as much of the land as possible. Discouragement came in the form of tall tales of fierce Indians, poor farming conditions, and terrible weather. Even though it was against the policy of the Hudson's Bay Company, Dr. McLoughlin was sympathetic to the plight of the settlers and offered them aid. Often arriving sick, hungry, and without provisions, his kindly heart extended them credit, fed and clothed them, cared for the sick, and supplied them with seed for farming. His personal decision to provide supplies and support to the American settlers coming over the Oregon Trail, contrary to his orders from the Hudson's Bay Company Governor, proved to be critical to the peaceful settlement of the territory in favor of U.S. claims.

In 1845, no longer able to stomach company policy toward American settlers, Dr. McLoughlin resigned his position with the Hudson's Bay Company. After his resignation, he purchased Hudson's Bay Company's land claim at Willamette Falls in Oregon City, and he and his family moved into his newly-built house (The McLoughlin House) in 1846. McLoughlin remained a public figure during his retirement and became a U.S. citizen in 1849.

He donated land for a jail and female seminary, and in 1851 he was elected mayor of Oregon City. He died in his home only six short years later.

In 1941, the McLoughlin House was designated a National Historic Site, the first one in the west, and in 1957, Dr. John McLoughlin was named "Father of Oregon" by the Oregon State Legislature.

As you can see, Fort Vancouver and the McLoughlin House National Historic Site have a long and storied history together. The intent of this legislation is to see that history continued by expanding the boundaries of Fort Vancouver to include the McLoughlin House National Historic Site.

Currently the McLoughlin House National Historic Site is maintained and managed by the non-profit McLoughlin Memorial Association. When the McLoughlin House faced demolition in 1909, the Memorial Association was formed and money was raised to move the house to a public park atop the bluff. McLoughlin's home opened as a museum in 1910. For almost 100 years, the association has done admirable work to preserve and maintain this historic treasure so thousands of people can continue to tour the site annually. However, over the past several years, the association has been unable to raise the funds required to provide the needed maintenance and upkeep of the property that is now in jeopardy of failing into disrepair.

The McLoughlin House National Historic Act would do what I believe should have occurred over 60 years ago and that is include these properties as part of the National Park System to be managed by the National Park Service. Again, it is my intent that this would be done, not by creating a new unit of the National Park System, but rather by simply including the McLoughlin House into the boundaries of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site which is already administered as part of the National Park System. I believe that including the McLoughlin House into the boundaries of Fort Vancouver is the only way to preserve in perpetuity the cultural, educational, and historical benefits of this historic site for future generations.

In closing I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to Chairman HANSEN, Ranking member RAHALL, and Chairman RADANOVICH for so generously agreeing to work with me on this bill and helping to move it forward. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Luke Johnson and David Watkins of the Resources Committee staff for their tireless efforts on behalf of this bill. Thank you to John Salisbury and the McLoughlin Memorial Association for all your hard work to preserve this Oregon treasure. And lastly I'd like to thank Tracy Fortmann for her advocacy on behalf of the McLoughlin House over the years. She's done wonderful work and we are extremely lucky to have her at Fort Vancouver.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation today.

INDIANS BOAST OF SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTION IN U.S. ELECTION

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 30, 2002

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as you know, I recently suffered a setback in my bid for re-

election. I am beginning to get over the disappointment that I will no longer be able to serve the people of Georgia in the next Congress. I will miss serving.

However, there were some alarming things about the campaign to defeat me that I think my colleagues of both parties should look out for. I am not talking about the Republicans who crossed over to vote for my opponent, but the heavy involvement of Indians in the primary. I am one of the Members of Congress who has tried to get out the truth about South Asia, and I am proud of that. Earlier this year, I was one of 42 Members of Congress who wrote to President Bush to urge the release of Sikh and other political prisoners in India.

Apparently, this irritated the Indians because the newspaper article I am inserting in the RECORD along with this statement shows that they admitted that they invested heavily in the effort to defeat me. To my colleagues of both parties who have also been involved in the effort to expose India's brutal record, I say: Watch out; they are coming after you, too.

India has a record of illegal interference in U.S. elections. Former Ambassador S.S. Ray publicly urged the reelection of former Senator Larry Pressler and in opposition to now Senator ROBERT TORRICELLI. An Indian American immigration lawyer named Lalit Gadhia funneled money from the Indian Embassy to Congressional candidates, according to the Baltimore Sun. Most of the candidates were of my party, people I am proud to have had as my colleagues during my service in Congress. But it is still illegal and wrong for India to funnel Embassy money to these Members' campaigns.

Now I have become the latest political officeholder in India's cross hairs. I won't be the last unless their activities are exposed. Mr. Speaker, whether I am in office or not, I don't intend to let a foreign power determine the results of American elections if I can help it.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the article showing Indian involvement in my primary into the RECORD to help expose their activities.

[From The Times of India, Aug. 21, 2002]

INDIAN-AMERICANS HELP UNSEAT US

LAWMAKER

(By Chidanand Rajghatta)

WASHINGTON.—The headlines credit the Jewish lobby for the defeat of lawmaker Cynthia McKinney in the Congressional primaries on Tuesday. But a neophyte Indian-American activists group, which co-wrote the script for this unusual Georgia election that attracted nationwide attention, is happy with just the footnote that recorded their role.

They like to do it quietly. They are not as political or as established as the Jewish lobby.

Congresswoman McKinney outraged a lot of people with some bizarre remarks. Among her more provocative comments was her theory that President Bush purposely ignored warnings about 9/11 to help the U.S. arms industry. The comment angered not just the Jewish groups, but regular Americans as well.

The African American incumbent was not shy of expressing her opinion on the subcontinent either—mostly ill-informed repeats made at the behest of the Pakistani and Khalistani lobby, according to Indian-Americans.

A sample: The Indian government is responsible for terrorism against its own people. It engineered the massacre of bus passengers in Kashmir and the blowing up of a passenger airliner.

Community leaders said she recorded that kind of “unsubstantiated nonsense, usually peddled by disgruntled and discredited conspiracy theorists,” in the Congressional Record.

But it was when she began talking about the imminent breakup of India because of its “17 different separatist movements” that the Indians of Georgia lost it for her and banded together.

One prominent activist sent out an e-mail to 3400 Indian-Americans in the area reporting her remarks (under the subject line—“Balkanisation of India—advocated by Rep. Cynthia McKinney”) and urging them to work for her opponent, a local judge named Denise Majette.

Led by a prominent dotcommer in the area, they were soon holding fund-raisers for Majette, who like McKinney is also African-American. They chipped in with \$20,000, although much larger sums came in later from Middle East groups—the Jews backing

Majette and Arabs and Muslims supporting McKinney.

Indian-Americans contributed in other ways too. Several volunteers worked full weeks for Majette’s campaign. She was invited as the chief guest for an Indian-American beauty pageant. A motel owner turned his electronic billboard next to the main highway into her campaign sign.

It was much after the Indian-American effort began that the Jewish lobby rolled into town. But the two sides joined hands for a phono-thon and pooled other resources for the campaign.

When the results came in on Tuesday, Majette had polled 58 per cent to McKinney’s 42 per cent. The Indian bush telegraph—e-mail—was buzzing.

“Money is important. But volunteer and other efforts are equally important. Even more important is that we need to be on the radar screen of the candidate we are supporting. Ms. Denise Majette hopefully knows

that we made a difference in her bid. Please keep in communication with her to further the relationship between IA (Indian Americans) and her,” one prominent activist wrote. “The good news is that we offered our support before the poll numbers and Jewish money transpired. Thus, we got noticed,” another group leader responded.

In keeping with the low-profile effort, none of them were eager to be identified.

The Indian embassy also quietly celebrated McKinney’s loss, although, sticking to the principle of non-interference in local elections, it declined any comment. The embassy has been accused in the past of being a little too interested in the Congressional races.

Democrat Majette will now go up against the winner of the Republican primary for a seat in the Congress in the main elections due in November. But for now, Indians and Indian-Americans can breathe easy that they do not have to hear Cynthia McKinney’s conspiracy theories in Congress.